

REMARKS

The Examiner objects to claim 1 on the grounds that it is anticipated by the disclosure of U.S. Patent No. 6,003,031 to Hartikainen. However, no reference can be found in Hartikainen to the provision of service logic for non-IN services. Examples of non-IN services include the functions traditionally performed by the local telephone exchanges rather than under control of the IN service control function (SCF). This restriction is present in conventional IN networks due, at least in part, to the narrow specification of the intelligent network application part (INAP) as defined in International Standard ITU-T Q.1228 "IN CS-2".

A significant advance provided by the present invention lies in its ability to allow the IN SCF to control both IN and conventionally non-IN services. By using the present invention, it is possible to more efficiently and precisely define and deploy IN and non-IN services.

The object of Hartikainen is quite different from that pursued by the present inventors. Hartikainen's aim is to improve efficiency by arranging for a single service logic program (SLP) to provide services specific to a number of different subscribers by arranging the SLP to access different sets of subscriber-specific information (see Abstract, col. 4, lines 9-11). The teaching of Hartikainen is restricted to conventional IN functions. In the Background section of the patent, Hartikainen teaches only the implementation of customer-specific IN services (see col. 4, lines 30-35) that enable the operator to implement IN services on a large scale (see col. 4, lines 53-55). In the detailed description, Hartikainen focuses on an implementation of an IN "Follow Me" service (see col. 5, lines 17-37). At the end of the detailed description, Hartikainen implies that this is given as an example of the invention, however, even here there is no indication that the invention could apply to the provision of non-IN services, nor any teaching of how such non-IN services could be provided by the IN system of Hartikainen.

The present invention is clearly novel when compared with the cited prior art of Hartikainen and brings the significant advantages outlined above and detailed in the present specification. Claims 2-13, being dependent from claim 1, are likewise novel and inventive.

Allowance of claims 1-13 is respectfully requested.

Petition is hereby made for a two-month extension of the period to respond to the outstanding Official Action to March 23, 2004. A check in the amount of \$420.00, as the Petition fee, is enclosed herewith. If there are any additional charges, or any overpayment, in connection with the filing of this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such deficiency, or credit any such overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 11-1145.

Wherefore, a favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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